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MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1768.

LETTERS *from a* FARMER *in* PENNSYLVANIA, *to the Inhabitants of the* British *Colonies.*

LETTER XI.

MY DEAR COUNTRYMEN,

I HAVE ſeveral Times, in the Courſe of theſe Letters, mentioned the late Act of Parliament, as being the *Foundation* of future Meaſures injurious to theſe Colonies; and the Belief of this Truth I wiſh to prevail, becauſe I think it neceſſary to our Safety.

A *perpetual Jealouſy*, reſpecting Liberty, is abſolutely requiſite in all free States. The very Texture of their Conſtitution, in *mixed* Governments, demands it. For the *Cautions* with which Power is *diſtributed* among the ſeveral Orders, *imply*, that *each* has that Share which is proper for the general Welfare, and therefore that any further Acquiſition muſt be pernicious. * *Machiavel* employs a whole Chapter in his Diſcourſes, to prove that a State, to be long lived, muſt be frequently corrected, and reduced to its firſt Principles. But of all States that have exiſted, there never was any, in which this Jealouſy could be more proper than in theſe Colonies. For the Government here is not only *mixt*, but *dependant*, which Circumſtance occaſions *a Peculiarity in its Form*, of a very delicate Nature.

Two Reaſons induce me to deſire, that this Spirit of Apprehenſion may be always kept up among us, in its utmoſt Vigilance. The Firſt is this—that as the Happineſs of theſe Provinces indubitably conſiſts in their Connexion with *Great-Britain*, any Separation between them is leſs likely to be occaſioned by civil Diſcords, if every diſguſting Meaſure is oppoſed *ſingly*, and *while it is new*: For in this Manner of Proceeding, every ſuch Meaſure is moſt likely to be rectified. On the other Hand, Oppreſſions and Diſſatisfactions being permitted to accumulate—*if ever* the governed throw off the Load, *they will do more*. A People does not reform with Moderation. The Rights of the Subject therefore cannot be *too often* conſidered, explained, or aſſerted: And, whoever attempts to do this, ſhews himſelf, whatever may be the raſh and peeviſh Reflections of pretended Wiſdom, and pretended Duty, a Friend to *thoſe* who injudiciouſly exerciſe their Power, as well as to *them*, over whom it is ſo exerciſed.

Had all the Points of Prerogative claimed by *Charles* the Firſt, been ſeparately conteſted and ſettled in preceding Reigns, his Fate would in all Probability have been very different; and the People would have been content with that Liberty which is compatible with regal Authority, But † he thought, it would be as dangerous for him to give up the Powers which at any Time had been by Uſurpation exerciſed by the Crown, as thoſe that were legally veſted in it. This produced an equal Exceſs on the Part of the People. For when their Paſſions were excited by *multiplied* Grievances, they thought it would be as dangerous for them to allow the Powers that were legally veſted in the Crown, as thoſe which at any Time had been by Uſurpation exerciſed by it. Acts, that might, *by themſelves*, have been upon many Conſiderations excuſed or extenuated, derived a contagious Malignancy and Odium from other Acts, with which they were connected. They were not regarded according to the ſimple Force of each, but as Parts of a Syſtem of Oppreſſion.—Every one therefore, however ſmall in itſelf, became alarming, as an additional Evidence of tyrannical Deſigns. It was in vain for prudent and moderate Men to inſiſt, that there was no Neceſſity to aboliſh Royalty. Nothing leſs than the utter Deſtruction of Monarchy, could ſatisfy thoſe who *had* ſuffered, and thought they had Reaſon to believe, they always *ſhould* ſuffer under it.

The Conſequences of theſe mutual Diſtruſts are well known: But there is no other People mentioned in Hiſtory, that I recollect, who have been ſo conſtantly watchful of their Liberty, and ſo ſucceſsful in their Struggles for it, as the *Engliſh*. This Conſideration leads me to the Second Reaſon, why I "deſire that the Spirit of Apprehenſion may be always kept up among us in its utmoſt Vigilance."

The firſt Principles of Government are to be looked for in human Nature. Some of the beſt Writers have aſſerted, and it ſeems with good Reaſon, that "Government is founded on ‡ *Opinion*."

CUSTOM undoubtedly has a mighty Force in producing *Opinion*, and reigns in nothing more arbitrarily than in public Affairs. It gradually reconciles us to Objects, even to Dread and Deteſtation; and I cannot but think theſe Lines of Mr. *Pope* as applicable to Vice in *Ethics*, as to Vice in *Ethics*.——

"Vice is a Monſter of ſo horrid Mein,
"As to be hated, needs but to be ſeen;
"Yet *ſeen too oft*, familiar with her Face,
"We firſt *endure*, then *pity*, then *embrace*."

When an Act injurious to Freedom has been *once* done, and the People *bear* it, the *Repetition* of it is moſt likely to meet with *Submiſſion*. For as the *Miſchief* of the one was found to be tolerable, they will hope that of the Second will prove ſo too; and they will not regard the *Infamy* of the laſt, becauſe they are ſtained with that of the Firſt.

Indeed Nations, in general, are not apt to *think* until they *feel*; and therefore Nations in general have loſt their Liberty: For, as Violations of the Rights of the *governed*, are commonly not only * *ſpecious*, but *ſmall* at the Beginning, they ſpread over the Multitude in ſuch a Manner, as to touch Individuals but ſlightly. Thus they are diſregarded †. The Power or Profit that ariſes from theſe Violations, *centering in few Perſons*, is to them conſiderable. For this Reaſon the *Governors* having in View their particular Purpoſes, ſucceſſively preſerve an Uniformity of Conduct for attaining them. They regularly increaſe and multiply the firſt Injuries, till at length the inattentive People are compelled to perceive the Heavineſs of their Burthens.—They begin to complain and enquire—but too late. They find their Oppreſſors ſo ſtrengthened by Succeſs, and themſelves ſo entangled in Examples of expreſs Authority, on the Part of their Rulers, and of tacit Recognition on their own Part, that they are quite confounded: For Millions entertain no other Idea of the *Legality* of Power, than that it is founded on the *Exerciſe* of Power. They voluntarily faſten their Chains, by adopting a puſillanimous *Opinion*, "that there will be too much *Danger* in attempting a Remedy,"—or another *Opinion*, no leſs fatal,—"that the Government has a *Right* to treat them as it does." They then ſeek a wretched Relief for their Minds, by perſuading themſelves, that to yield their *Obedience*, is to diſcharge their *Duty*. The deplorable *Poverty of Spirit*, that proſtrates all the Dignity beſtowed by Divine Providence on our Nature—*of Courſe ſucceeds*.

From theſe Reflections I conclude, that every Free State ſhould inceſſantly watch, and inſtantly take Alarm on any Addition being made to the Power exerciſed over them. Innumerable Inſtances might be produced to ſhew, from what ſlight Beginnings the moſt extenſive Conſequences have flowed: But I ſhall ſelect Two only from the Hiſtory of *England*.

Henry the Seventh was the *firſt* Monarch of that Kingdom, who eſtabliſhed a STANDING BODY OF ARMED MEN. This was a Band of *Fifty* Archers, called Yeomen of the Guard: And this Inſtitution, notwithſtanding the Smallneſs of the Number, was, to prevent Diſcontent ‡, "diſguiſed under Pretence of Majeſty and Grandeur." In 1684, the Standing Forces were ſo much augmented, that *Rapin* ſays,——"The King, in order to make his People *fully ſenſible of their new Slavery*, affected to muſter his Troops, which amounted to 4000 well armed and diſciplined Men." I think our Army, at this Time, conſiſts of more than *Seventy* Regiments.

The Method of taxing by EXCISE was firſt introduced amidſt the Convulſions of the Civil Wars. Extreme Neceſſity was pretended, and its ſhort Continuance promiſed. After the Reſtoration, an Exciſe upon *Beer*, *Ale*, and *other Liquors*, was granted to the ‖ King, one Half in Fee, the other for Life, as an Equivalent for the *Court of Wards*. Upon *James* the Second's Acceſſion, the Parliament § gave him the firſt *Exciſe*, with an additional Duty on *Wine*, *Tobacco*, and ſome *other* Things. Since the Revolution, it has been extended to Salt, Candles, Leather, Hides, Hops, Soap, Paper, Paſte-boards, Mill-boards, Scale-boards, Vellum, Parchment, Starch, Silks, Callicoes, Linens, Stuffs, printed, ſtained, &c. Wire, Wrought Plate, Coffee, Tea, Chocolate, &c.

Thus a *Standing Army* and *Exciſe*, have, from their firſt ſlender Origins, tho' always *hated*, always *feared*, always *oppoſed*, at length ſwelled up to their vaſt preſent Bulk.

Theſe Facts are ſufficient to ſupport what I have ſaid. 'Tis true, that all the Miſchiefs apprehended by our Anceſtors from a *Standing Army* and *Exciſe*, have not *yet happened*: But it does not follow from thence, that they *will not happen*. The Inſide of a Houſe may catch Fire, and the moſt valuable Apartments be ruined, before the Flames burſt out. The Queſtion in theſe Caſes is not, what Evil *has actually attended* particular Meaſures——but, what Evil, in the Nature of Things, *is likely to attend* them. Certain Circumſtances may, for ſome Time, delay Effects, that *were reaſonably expected*, and that *muſt enſue*. There was a long Period, after the *Romans* had prorogued his Command to Q. *Publilius Philo* *, before *that Example* deſtroyed their Liberty. All our Kings, from the Revolution, to the preſent Reign, have been *Foreigners*. Their *Miniſters* generally continued but a ſhort Time in Authority †; and they themſelves were *mild* and *virtuous* Princes.

A *bold*, *ambitious* Prince, poſſeſſed of *great Abilities*, firmly *fixed* in his Throne *by Deſcent*, ſerved by *Miniſters like himſelf*, and rendered either *venerable* or *terrible* by the *Glory of his Succeſſes*, may execute what his Predeceſſors did not dare to attempt. *Henry* the Fourth tottered in his Seat during his whole Reign. *Henry* the Fifth drew the Strength of the Kingdom into *France*, to carry on his Wars there, and left the *Commons* at home, *proteſting*, "that the People were not bound to "ſerve out of the Realm."

It is true, that a ſtrong Spirit of Liberty ſubſiſts at preſent in *Great-Britain*, but what Reliance is to be placed in the *Temper* of a People, when the Prince is poſſeſſed of an unconſtitutional Power, our own Hiſtory can ſufficiently inform us. When *Charles* the Second had ſtrengthened himſelf by the Return of the Garriſon of *Tangier*, *England* (ſays *Rapin*) ſaw on a ſudden an *amazing Revolution*; ſaw herſelf *ſtripped of all her Rights and Privileges*, excepting ſuch as the King ſhould vouchſafe to grant her: And what is *more aſtoniſhing*, the *Engliſh* themſelves *delivered up* theſe very Rights and Privileges to *Charles* the Second, which they had ſo *paſſionately*, and, if I may ſay it, *furiouſly* defended againſt the Deſigns of *Charles* the Firſt." This happened only *Thirty-ſix* Years after this laſt Prince had been beheaded.

Some Perſons are of Opinion, that Liberty is not violated, but by ſuch *open* Acts of Force; but they ſeem to be greatly miſtaken. I could mention a Period within theſe Forty Years, when almoſt as great a Change of Diſpoſition was produced by the SECRET Meaſures of a *long* Adminiſtration, as by *Charles*'s Violence. Liberty, perhaps, is never expoſed to ſo much Danger as when the People believe there is the leaſt; for it may be ſubverted, and yet they not think ſo.

Public diſguſting Acts are ſeldom practiſed by the Ambitious, at the Beginning of their Deſigns. Such Conduct *ſilences* and *diſcourages* the Weak, and the Wicked, who would otherwiſe have been their *Advocates* or *Accomplices*. It is of great Conſequence, to allow thoſe who, upon any Account, are inclined to favour them, ſomething ſpecious to *ſay* in their Defence. Their Power may be fully eſtabliſhed, tho' it would not be ſafe for them to do *whatever they pleaſe*. For there are Things, which, at ſome Times, even *Slaves* will not bear. *Julius Cæſar*, and *Oliver Cromwell*, did not dare to aſſume the Title of *King*. The *Grand Signior* dares not lay a *new Tax*. The King of *France* dares not be a *Proteſtant*. Certain popular Points may be left untouched, and yet Freedom be extinguiſhed. The Commonalty of *Venice* imagine themſelves free, becauſe they are permitted to do, what they ought not. But I quit a Subject, that would lead me too far from my Purpoſe.

By the late Act of Parliament, Taxes are to be levied upon us, for "defraying the Charge of the *Adminiſtration of Juſtice*——the Support of *Civil Government*——and the Expences of *defending* his Majeſty's Dominions in *America*."

If any Man doubts what ought to be the Conduct of theſe Colonies on this Occaſion, I would aſk him theſe Queſtions.

Has not the Parliament *expreſsly* AVOWED their INTENTION of raiſing Money from us FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES? Is not this Scheme *popular* in *Great-Bri-*

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* Machiavel's *diſcourſes*——*Book* 3. *chap.* 1.

† *The author is ſenſible, that this is putting the gentleſt conſtruction on* Charles's *conduct; and that is one reaſon why he chuſes it. Allowances ought to be made for the errors of thoſe men, who are acknowledged to have been poſſeſſed of many virtues. The education of this unhappy prince, and his confidence in men not ſo good or wiſe as himſelf, had probably filled him with miſtaken notions of his own authority, and of the conſequences, that would attend conceſſions of any kind, to a people, who were repreſented to him, as aiming at too much power.*

‡ "OPINION *is of two kinds*, viz. Opinion *of* INTEREST, *and* opinion *of* RIGHT. *By* opinion *of* intereſt, *I chiefly underſtand*, the ſenſe of the public advantage which is reaped from government; *together with the perſuaſion that the particular government which is eſtabliſhed, is* equally advantageous *with any other*, that could be eaſily ſettled."

"Right *is of two kinds*, right *to* power, *and* right *to* property. *What prevalence* opinion *of the firſt kind has over mankind, may eaſily be underſtood, by obſerving the attachment which all nations have to their antient government, and even to thoſe Names which have had the Sanction of Antiquity.* Antiquity always begets the Opinion of Right."——"*It is ſufficiently underſtood, that the* Opinion *of* Right *to* Property, *is of the greateſt Moment in all Matters of Government.*" Hume's Eſſays.

* Omnia mala exempla ex bonis initiis orta ſunt.
SALLUST. Bell. Cat. §. 50.

† "*The* republic *is always* attacked *with greater vigour than it is* defended: *For the* audacious *and* profligate, *prompted by their natural enmity to it, are* eaſily impelled *to act by the* leaſt nod *of their* leaders: *Whereas the* HONEST, *I know not why, are generally* ſlow *and* unwilling *to ſtir; and* neglecting *always the* BEGINNINGS of things, *are* never roused *to exert themſelves, but by the* laſt neceſſity: *So that through* IRRESOLUTION *and* DELAY, *when they would be glad to compound at laſt for their* QUIET, *at the expence even of their* HONOUR, *they* commonly loſe them BOTH."
CICERO's Orat. for SEXTIUS.

Such were the Sentiments of this great and excellent man, whoſe vaſt abilities, and the calamities of his country, during his time, enabled him, by mournful experience, to form a juſt judgment on the conduct of the friends and enemies of liberty.

‡ Rapin's *Hiſtory of* England.

‖ 12 Car. II. *chap.* 23 *and* 24.

§ 1 James II. *chap.* 1 *and* 4.

* *In the year of the city* 428, "Duo ſingularia hæc ei viro primum contigere; prorogatio imperii non ante in ullo facta, et acto honore triumphus." *Liv. b.* 8. *chap.* 23, 26.

"*Had the reſt of the* Roman *citizens imitated the example of* L. Quintius, *who refuſed to have his conſulſhip continued to him, they had never admitted that cuſtom of proroguing of magiſtrates, and then the prolongation of their commands in the army had never been introduced*, which very Thing was at length the Ruin of that Commonwealth." *Machiavel's Diſcourſes, b.* 3. *chap.* 24.

† *I don't know but it may be ſaid, with a good deal of reaſon, that a quick rotation of miniſters is very deſirable in* Great-Britain. *A miniſter there has a vaſt ſtore of materials to work with.* Long adminiſtrations *are rather favourable to the* reputation *of a people abroad, than to their* liberty.

tain? Will the Taxes, impoſed by the late Act, *anſwer thoſe Purpoſes?* If it will, muſt it not take an *immenſe Sum* from us? If it will not, *is it to be expected*, that the Parliament will not *fully execute* their INTENTION, when it is pleaſing at Home, *and not oppoſed here?* Muſt not this be done by impoſing NEW *Taxes?* Will not every Addition, thus made to our Taxes, be an Addition to the Power of the *Britiſh* Legiſlature, *by increaſing the Number of Officers* employed in the Collection? Will not every additional Tax therefore render it *more difficult* to abrogate any of them? When a Branch of Revenue is once eſtabliſhed, does it not appear to many People, *invidious* and *undutiful*, to attempt to aboliſh it? If Taxes, ſufficient to *accompliſh the* INTENTION of the Parliament, are impoſed by the Parliament, *what Taxes will remain* to be impoſed by our Aſſemblies? If *no material Taxes remain* to be impoſed by them, what muſt become of *them*, and the *People* they repreſent?

* "If any Perſon conſiders theſe Things, and yet thinks our Liberties are in no Danger, I wonder at that Perſon's Security."

One other Argument is to be added, which, by itſelf, I hope, will be ſufficient to convince the moſt incredulous Man on this Continent, that the late Act of Parliament is *only* deſigned to be a PRECEDENT, whereon the future Vaſſalage of theſe Colonies may be eſtabliſhed.

Every Duty thereby laid on Articles of *Britiſh* Manufacture, is laid on ſome Commodity, upon the Exportation of which from *Great-Britain*, a *Drawback* is payable. Thoſe *Drawbacks*, in moſt of the Articles, are *exactly double* the *Duties* given by the late Act. The Parliament therefore might, in *Half a Dozen Lines*, have raiſed MUCH MORE MONEY, only by *ſtopping the Drawbacks* in the Hands of the Officers at Home, on Exportation to theſe Colonies, than by this ſolemn Impoſition of Taxes upon us, to be collected here. Probably, the artful Contrivers of this Act formed it in this Manner, in order to reſerve to themſelves, in caſe of any Objections being made to it, this ſpecious Pretence——"that the Drawbacks are Gifts to the Colonies, and that the late Act only leſſens thoſe Gifts." But the Truth is, that the Drawbacks are intended for the Encouragement and Promotion of *Britiſh* Manufactures and Commerce, and are allowed on Exportation to *any foreign Parts*, as well as on Exportation to theſe Provinces. Beſides, Care has been taken to ſlide into the Act, † ſome Articles on which there are no Drawbacks. However, the *whole Duties* laid by the Act on *all* the Articles therein ſpecified, are *ſo ſmall*, that they will not amount to *as much* as the *Drawbacks* which are allowed on *Part* of them only. If therefore, *the Sum to be obtained by the late Act*, had been the *ſole Object* in forming it, there would not have been any Occaſion for "the COMMONS of *Great-Britain* to GIVE and GRANT to his Majeſty RATES and DUTIES for *raiſing a Revenue* IN *his Majeſty's Dominions in* America, for making a more certain and adequate Proviſion for defraying the Charges of the Adminiſtration of Juſtice, the Support of Civil Government, and the Expence of defending the ſaid Dominions;"—Nor would there have been any Occaſion for an ‡ expenſive Board of Commiſſioners, and all the other new Charges to which we are made liable.

Upon the Whole, for my Part, I regard the late Act as an *Experiment made of our Diſpoſition*. It is a Bird ſent out over the Waters, to diſcover, whether the Waves, that lately agitated this Part of the World with ſuch Violence, are yet *ſubſided*. If *this Adventurer* gets Footing here, we ſhall ſoon be convinced, that it is not a *Phœnix*; for we ſhall quickly ſee it followed by *others of the ſame kind*. We ſhall find it rather to be of the ‖ Breed deſcribed by the Poet.——

"*Infelix Vates.*"

A direful Foreteller of future Calamities.

A FARMER.

* Domeſthenes's 2d Philippic.

† *Tho' duties by the late act are laid on ſome articles, on which no drawbacks are allowed, yet the duties impoſed by the act are ſo ſmall, in compariſon with the drawbacks that* are *allowed, that* all the duties together *will not amount to* ſo much *as the* drawbacks.

‡ *The expence of this board, I am informed, is between Four and Five Thouſand Pounds ſterling a year. The eſtabliſhment of Officers, for collecting the revenue in* America, *amounted before, to Seven Thouſand Six Hundred Pounds* per annum; *and yet, ſays the author of "The regulation of the colonies," "the whole remittance from* all *the taxes in the colonies, at an average of* thirty years, *has not amounted to One Thouſand Nine Hundred Pounds a year, and in that ſum Seven or Eight Hundred Pounds* per annum *only, have been remitted from* North-America."

The ſmallneſs of the revenue ariſing from the duties in America, *demonſtrates, that they were intended only as* REGULATIONS OF TRADE: *And can any perſon be ſo blind to truth, ſo dull of apprehenſion in a matter of unſpeakable importance to his country, as to imagine, that the board of commiſſioners lately eſtabliſhed at ſuch a charge, is inſtituted to aſſiſt in collecting One Thouſand Nine Hundred Pounds a year, or the trifling duties impoſed by the late act? Surely every man on this continent muſt perceive, that they are eſtabliſhed for the care of a* NEW SYSTEM OF REVENUE, *which it but now begun.*

‖ "*Dira cælæno*," &c. Virgil, Æneid 3.

MADRID, *October* 28.

WE are informed the Jeſuits of Mexico, to the Number of 700, were all ſuddenly and unexpectedly arreſted in the Month of July laſt, and their Effects confiſcated, to the Amount, according to Eſtimation, of 77 Millions of Hard Piaſtres, or 385 Millions of Livres, French Money.

LONDON, *December* 1.

Some of the laſt Letters from Germany adviſe, that his Pruſſian Majeſty employs much of his Time with his General Officers, and is going to introduce ſome more new Manœuvres among his Troops.

A Petition of Appeal is preſented to an Auguſt Aſſembly in the great Douglas Cauſe.

It is an acknowledged Fact, among the firſt Ranks who are now returned from the different Counties, that a general Diſtreſs at this Time reigns among the poorer Sort throughout the Kingdom. It is equally true, that the principal Cauſe of the Calamity, is the Failure in the laſt Harveſt, and the Want of an old Stock of Corn in Hand as formerly. If we may credit the Opinions of ſome of the London Bakers, the Effects will be more ſeverely felt; for they think that the Quartern Loaf will probably be ſold this Winter at a Shilling. What rather adds to the public Apprehenſion, is the preſent Scarcity of Corn throughout Europe. The only Part of the World from which we hear of no Want in this Article, is America: From thence, we might, e'ere this, have been amply ſupplied, had our Ports been opened upon a Certainty for any conſiderable Length of Time: For, the Merchant, who is uncertain, whether American Corn may arrive here in a ſhort limited Time, muſt neceſſarily be cramped in ſending his Commiſſions.

Dec. 5. We hear upwards of Twenty Ships will in a few Days be taken up by the Merchants, and ſent to import American Corn to England.

Letters from Dublin adviſe, that the Bill for limiting the Duration of Parliaments in that Kingdom to Seven Years, has paſſed the Houſe of Commons; and that, on the 20th Ult. the Speaker, attended by a great Number of the Commons, waited on his Excellency Lord Townſhend, with the ſaid Bill, in order to have it tranſmitted to England.

Dec. 3. Letters from Madrid mention, that the Jeſuits had propoſed the giving up entirely to the Spaniſh Crown, the whole Province of Paraguay, with the Diſcovery of its Gold, Silver, and Diamond Mines, and even engaged to make the Natives ſubſervient to that Monarchy, on Condition of obtaining of his Catholic Majeſty an Aſylum in his Dominions, or thoſe of the neighbouring States, through his Means.

Dec. 8. They write from Sicily that an Inſurrection has happened in that Iſland, occaſioned by a Scarcity of Bread, in which the Populace maſſacred the Vice-Roy's Guards, took him Priſoner, and killed the Prince Ventmiglia, and hung up ſeveral other Perſons of Diſtinction. The Armament preparing at Naples is intended to quell the Inſurgents; but, in the mean Time, the People are in ſuch a Ferment, that an Inſurrection is expected alſo at the laſt mentioned Place every Day.

Dec. 10. Monday a Meſſenger arrived at St. James's from his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, who it is ſaid, brought the Septennial Bill, lately paſſed both Houſes of Parliament in that Kingdom, for his Majeſty's Approbation.

Dec. 12. An Arret of Council was publiſhed on the 14th Ult. at Paris, in which his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty ordered the Payment of the Canada Paper Money to the Parties mentioned in a Liſt annexed.

Dec. 15. On Saturday in the Afternoon a Cabinet-council was held at the Queen's Palace, and the ſame Evening Two Meſſengers were ſent away to Dublin, one of whom was ordered to embark at Parkgate, and the other at Holy-head, with Diſpatches for the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

Dec. 17. Letters from Conſtantinople adviſe, that a dangerous Inſurrection has lately happened there. High Diſputes began in the Divan, but on what Subject is not poſitively mentioned; and the Janiſſaries and Mob immediately took Part in the Diſpute, and a great deal of Blood was ſpilt on the Occaſion before it could be quelled.

We hear from Frome, in Somerſetſhire, that ſome Gentlemen of that Town have made a Collection of near 200 l. in order to purchaſe Flour, which is to be made into Bread, and ſold to the Poor, at One Penny per Pound.

Dec. 19. The following Military Promotions, it is ſaid, will ſhortly take Place.

His Royal Highneſs the Duke of Glouceſter will be appointed Commander in Chief of the Forces in Ireland; and alſo to be Colonel of the Third (or Scotch) Regiment of Guards, vice Earl of Rothes, deceaſed.

General Murray, Governor of Canada, to have the 13th Regiment of Foot, vice the Duke of Glouceſter.

General Armſtrong, to have the 2d Battalion of Royal Americans, vice General Murray.

Colonel Robert Cuninghame to have the 38th Regiment of Foot, vice General Anſtruther, deceaſed.

Lord Robert Bertie, to be Governor of Duncannon Fort, vice Earl of Rothes; by which Promotion the Government of Cork is vacant.

'Tis ſaid, that the Earl of Findlater will be elected one of the Sixteen Peers for Scotland, in the Room of Lord Rothes.—Other Advices mention the Earl of Buchan.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Sandwich will, we are informed, ſoon be made Secretary of Sate.

It is expected that there will be a Loan of Two Millions, at the Rate of Three per Cent.

We hear that his Majeſty is expected to go on Monday next, to the Houſe of Peers, and give the Royal Aſſent to ſuch Bills as ſhall be ready.

NEW-YORK, *February* 22.

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in London, to his Friend in New-York, dated October 30.

"It is believed here that all Matters will go on well in America, but I cannot for my Life believe it, ſince it ſeems that the Revenues lately eſtabliſhed under the Inſpection of Commiſſioners, are to be applied to make Governors and Civil Officers independent of the People, though they are totally dependent upon Prerogative. If it made Civil Officers, or at leaſt ſome of the Principal Judges, thoroughly independent of King and People, there would be ſomewhat rational in the Scheme, but the other is a moſt ruinous and injurious Method.

"If your Legiſlature ceaſes, they will, I dare ſay, after a few Years, be obliged to reſtore what they ſo ſhamefully took away, as they did to Jamaica.

"I fear little will be done for America the next Seſſion, for the Commons will not be ſettled till late in the Seaſon."

We find by the Engliſh Papers, that Proviſions ſtill continue at an exorbitant Price, Manufactories ſeemed every where in a State of Decay, and the Poor in the greateſt Diſtreſs.——Nor was it likely that the Parliament could be able to apply any adequate Remedy, without an entire Change in the late Syſtem of Politics.

A Letter from London, dated Dec. 10, 1767, ſays, "the Duke of Bedford's Friends is coming into the Miniſtry, Lord Sandwich, to be at the Head of the Admiralty, Lords Gower and Weymouth, to be Secretaries of State; and it is imagined Lord Chatham and his Friends will be out, and appear again in Oppoſition; Grenville will join the Marquis of Rockingham's Party, but he muſt alter his Sentiments of America, as the Marquis will not give up his, who appears to be the beſt Friend we have got here.

ANNAPOLIS, *March* 3.

MARCH 2, 1768.

VERSES to C D, occaſioned by his SCURRILOUS LETTER.

Melius non tangere clamo. HOR.
But touch me, and no Miniſter ſo ſore. POPE.

VAIN the Attempt, to blaſt the ſacred Name,
That Virtue, and the Muſe, conſign to Fame;
The Wretch, who dares the Taſk, ſhall curſe, too late,
The luckleſs Hour, that urg'd him to his Fate!

Too well, methought, *you* knew me, War to wage,
Raiſe my Reſentment, and defy my Rage;
Whom *Phœbus* favours, BALTIMORE commends,
The nobleſt Patron, and the beſt of Friends.

Each Feature, in ſuch Colours, could I trace,
Paint all the Blackneſs of your Mind and Face,
So ſtrongly mark'd, you'd ſhun the hideous Elf,
Start at the Likeneſs, and abhor Yourſelf.
Dullneſs, in vain, her Sev'n-fold Shield may lend,
And deſp'rate, juſtly dread * LYCAMBES' End.

* Lycambes *having falſified his Word to* Archilocus, *the latter wrote ſo ſevere a Poem upon him, that it drove him to Deſpair, and he hanged himſelf.*

TO THE PRINTERS.

By publiſhing in your Paper, the following Obſervations on a Piece, ſigned A BYSTANDER, *inſerted in your* GAZETTE, *No.* 1168, *you will oblige*, Yours,

A PLAIN DEALER.

I SHOULD not have given myſelf the Trouble of animadverting upon the Byſtander's Performance, had not the Neglect, with which it has been generally received, given Riſe to the Queſtion, often repeated, *Why, if weak, has it not been expoſed?*

If any Lawyer of Eminence has really given an Opinion, that the Appointment to the Office of *Counſellor, incapacitates* him from acting as a *Veſtryman*, I can eaſily believe it was only *Primâ Facie*, and that he hardly even allowed himſelf the *very ſhort Time*, in which the *Byſtander*'s Reflections led him to concur. The Occaſion and Manner of this *Primâ Facie* Opinion have not been explained, or probably its Authority might be ſtill ſlighter. If we cou'd arrive at the naked Fact, perhaps it would appear, that the Word *Incapacitate* has been made Uſe of by the *Byſtander*, inſtead of the Term *Exempt*, which ſeems probable from the Conſideration, that in his Idea they are ſynonimous, or of equivalent Signification. But be this as it may, I never underſtood that the *Primâ Facie* Opinion of Counſel, however eminent, is ſo incontroulable and deciſive, as to exclude all Conteſt, nor do I think it receives much additional Vigour from the *momentary Reflections* of the ſagacious *Byſtander*. I ſhall therefore take the Liberty of examining into the Weight and Solidity of his Authorities and Arguments in Support of this ſtrange Doctrine, as well as of ſome other Novelties which are incidentally introduced into his Piece.

That the Qualification of a *Veſtryman* depends upon any other than the *temporal* Law in *England*, whether the Veſtry be *general* or *ſelect*, is a wild Aſſertion; for, in the *former* Caſe, every Pariſhioner, liable to Parochial Rates, and Out-dwellers, occupying Land in the Pariſh, are by the Common Law qualified to be of the *Veſtry*, and entitled to an Action in the *temporal Court* againſt the Diſturbers of their Right; in the *latter*, the Qualification depends upon Cuſtom, of which the *temporal* Courts *only* can take Cognizance. In this Province, *Veſtrymen* muſt be *Freeholders*, elected to that Office by *Freeholders*. And it would be too extravagant almoſt *for any one* to aſſert, that the Qualification of *Freehold*, is cognizable by any *Eccleſiaſtical Juriſdiction*. But, in what Part of *Maryland* is this Eccleſiaſtical Juriſdiction, of which the Byſtander ſpeaks?——He takes a Diſtinction between the Words *unfit* and *incapable* in the Act, and applies to them the Terms *voidable* and *void*.——*Voidable* imports ſomething that may be done, or not, and is improperly uſed, becauſe the Duty of the Veſtry, and the Proviſions of the Act, are the ſame, whether the Perſon, to be removed, ſhould be *unfit* or *incapable*.——But I muſt here remark, that the Byſtander did not fully underſtand the Meaning of his own Expreſſion; for, the Idea annexed to the Word *voidable*, ſuggeſts an Anſwer to all he has ſaid about *Exemption* and *Incapacity*; as one out of many Inſtances which might be produced, will ſufficiently ſhew. A Man, when of Age, is exempted from the Payment of a Bond, given in his Minority; yet, when by a Suit, called upon for his Defence, if he will wave the Privilege, he is conſidered in all the Capacities of any other Perſon.

The Byſtander quotes *Gibſon* thus:——"All Peers "of the Realm, by reaſon of their Dignity, are ex- "empted from the Office of Churchwarden, *&c.* 215." ——Hence, by *Parity of Reaſon*, he infers that *Counſellors* in this Province are under the like *Exemption*. Now, in this Quotation, I have ſome Suſpicion he has not been *candid*; for, altho' I have not *Gibſon*, yet I find that *Burn* (from whom I gueſs our Author has collected moſt of his Eccleſiaſtical Learning) cites the Paſſage, *without an* &c.

If this be really an Interpolation, the Author's View is ſufficiently apparent. His Readers were to ſupply the Word *Veſtrymen*, and he immediately argues upon that Suppoſition. But this Quotation was to be rendered ſtill more material by his Proof that *Exemption*,

and *Incapacity* are of equivalent Signification, in which however he has entirely failed. For, *Incapacity* and *Exemption*, or *Disability* and *Privilege*, conſiſt in this, that a Perſon *incapable*, has not the *Power* of acting or performing; and, a Perſon *exempted*, is not *compellable* to act by the *Power* of others. If an Alien or Convict ſhou'd be on a Jury, the Verdict wou'd be void, becauſe ſuch Perſons have not the *Power* to act in that Capacity. If a Clergyman, Magiſtrate, Lawyer, Phyſician, &c. ſhou'd be called upon to ſerve as Jurors, they might ſay,——*We will not, nor are we compellable*; but, ſhou'd they not claim their Exemption, their Verdict wou'd undoubtedly be good. *Incapacity* is the Subject of *Objection*——as *Exemption* is of *Claim*.

I will now proceed to examine his Authorities upon this Head. To ſupport his Poſition, he relies upon two Caſes, the firſt of which is to ſhew that *Incapacity* is *ſynonimous with Exemption*, and is ſtated thus—"It was "held, ſays he, in the great Cauſe between the City of "*London* and the Diſſenters, that Diſſenters being *in*"*capacitated* by the Act of Toleration, to take upon "themſelves Offices of Truſt, *without conforming*, were "*exempt* from the Fines for refuſing to ſerve the Office "of Sheriff of *London*."——Whereupon he obſerves——"Here an *Incapacity* works an Exemption." This Caſe is moſt egregiouſly miſrepreſented by the *Byſtander*. It is reported in *Burn*, I, 509, &c. and is to the following Effect: By the 13th of *Cha*. II. "No Per"ſon ſhou'd be choſen to any Office of Magiſtracy, &c. "relating to the Government of any City, &c. who "ſhall not have received the Sacrament, &c. within "one Year next before his Election, &c. In Default "thereof, every ſuch Election ſhall be void." An Action was brought, upon a Bye-Law, againſt *Evans*, who was a Diſſenter, for refuſing to ſerve in the Office of Sheriff, and the general Queſtion was, whether he was liable to Fine for not ſerving—Mr. Juſtice *Foſter* was of Opinion that the Act *being* prohibitory, upon the Electors, the *Election* was therefore a *mere Nullity*, *Evans* being a *Diſſenter*——Mr. Juſtice *Wilmot* was of the ſame Opinion, obſerving that the above Clauſe is not addreſſed to the *Party elected*, but to the *Electors*, the Prohibition being laid clearly upon *them*—that it was the Voice of the Legiſlature, commanding *them* not to *elect* ſuch Perſons—that the Election, contrary thereto, was a Tranſgreſſion; if wilful, a moral Wrong, on which an Action cannot be founded in Courts of Juſtice, which are to *inforce* the *Will of the Society*, and the *Laws manifeſt that Will*——That the Injunction, *not to elect*, *extinguiſhes the Right to elect*.——That the *Election*, being *void*, is an Infraction of the Law, and *Right cannot ſpring from Wrong*.——Is there one Tittle in the above Caſe, to ſhew, that it ever came into the Conſideration of the Judges, whether the *Incapacity* of the *elected*, *exempted* him *from the Fine*? Did they not expreſsly confine themſelves to the *Incapacity* of the *Electors*, and make that *alone* the Principle of their Determination? But, if the Caſe had even been as repreſented by the *Byſtander*, it wou'd only have ſhewn, that *Incapacity* is not liable to the Conſequence of *Capacity*, that Puniſhment ſhall not be inflicted without Delinquency, and his Concluſion, that *Incapacity* and *Exemption* are of the ſame Import, becauſe *Incapacity*, in one Reſpect, may be productive of *Exemption* in another, would have been ſtill abſurd.—For, does it follow, becauſe *one Thing works another*, that they muſt be *both* the *ſame*, and is there really no Difference between *Cauſe* and *Effect*? But let it even be granted for a Moment, that *Incapacity* and *Exemption* are ſynonimous, what will be the Conſequence of the Conceſſion? Why, plainly this, that his Poſition——"Here an *Incapacity* "works an *Exemption*" is equivalent to this "Here an *Incapacity* works an *Incapacity*"——which is one of thoſe harmleſs Propoſitions, which neither affirm or deny any Thing; and are moſt aptly diſtinguiſhed by the Name of *Nonſenſe*.——

His Second Caſe is to ſhew, that *Exemption* is made Uſe of in the Senſe of *Incapacity*, and ſtands thus——"The *Biſhops* firſt claimed as an *Exemption and Privi*"*lege*, not to ſit in Caſe of Life or Limb. Nevertheleſs, "Lord *Coke*, ſays, in Caſes of Trial for Treaſon, Miſ"priſion of Treaſon, or Felony, the Lords *Spiritual* "*muſt* withdraw"——"Here, ſays he, an *Exemption* "works an *Incapacity*."——The Reader who has the Book, is deſired to conſult *Burn*, Title Biſhops, Folio 156-7—and he will there find another Inſtance of our Author's Diſingenuity in his Miſapplication of my Lord *Coke*'s Authority; but as the Book is in very few Hands, I muſt beg Leave to give a ſhort State of the Caſe:——"In Fact, ſays *Burn*, there are ſeveral "Inſtances, wherein Biſhops did ſit and vote, or "wherein their Right was acknowledged to ſit and "vote, in like Caſes"——and then proceeds to cite five Inſtances in Confirmation of his Obſervation. *Immediately* after theſe Caſes, follows the Paſſage in Queſtion, *viz*. "Nevertheleſs, Lord *Coke* ſays *generally*, in "Caſes of Trial for Treaſon, Miſpriſion of Treaſon, "or Felony, the Lords *Spiritual muſt* withdraw, *and* "*make their Proxies*, 3 Inſt. 31."——

Now, in the Name of Candour, and Common Senſe, to what does *Burn* apply this Obſervation of my Lord *Coke*? Does it not moſt clearly refer to the *Caſes immediately before cited*, and does it go one Step further, than to declare, that notwithſtanding the Authority of thoſe Caſes to the *contrary*, it was my Lord *Coke*'s Opinion, that the Biſhops *muſt* withdraw? Does my Lord *Coke* ſay, as is ſuggeſted by the Byſtander, that *although* the Lords *Spiritual* claimed it as a *Privilege* and *Exemption*, to withdraw in Trials of Treaſon, &c. *nevertheleſs* they *muſt* withdraw? Was it fair in the Byſtander to transfer my Lord *Coke*'s Opinion from the *real Subject*, to Premiſſes *totally different*? The Candour of ſuch Behaviour I muſt ſubmit to every Reader's Reflection! Upon turning to Lord *Coke*, according to *Burn*'s Reference, I find the Paſſage to be *only* this:——"that if "a Peer, being indicted of Treaſon, &c. pleads not "guilty, he ſhall be tried *per Pares ſuos*, and then the "Lords Spiritual *muſt* withdraw."

Whether the *Excluſion* of the Biſhops, in Caſes of Blood, is juſt, or otherwiſe, is not the Queſtion; but, "whether the Aſſertion of the Byſtander, that *Exemp*"*tion* and *Incapacity* are Terms of equivalent Signifi"cation," is countenanced by that Inſtance. By the Canon Law, the Biſhops were diſabled from condemning any one to Death, and they contended, that this Law, or its Principle, (being taught by CHRIST himſelf, in his Command to *Peter*——"*Peter* put up your "Sword in the Sheath,") was obligatory upon them, and therefore withdrew from Trials of Life and Death. But, when afterwards they conſidered this Matter in a different Light, and others thought it expedient to hold them to their old Doctrine, the Biſhops contended that their Withdrawing did not proceed from their *Incapacity*, but their *Privilege or Exemption*, and therefore it was in their Option either to *claim* or to *waive*. But, had *Incapacity* and *Exemption* been the *ſame* Thing, it would have been inconſiſtent with the Wiſdom of this reverend Body, to advance their Pretenſion on a *Diſtinction* between them, and their Opponents would have inſiſted upon their *Incapacity*, upon their own Admiſſion of *Exemption*.——This Example, therefore, is very far indeed from affording any Colour to the Byſtander's Reaſoning.——I muſt, upon the Whole, ſubmit to the Reader, whether the Byſtander has not failed in every Effort to ſupport his Point, and left it as void of Proof, as if he had never written one Syllable upon the Subject.

If Counſellors are *incapable*, becauſe *exempted*, then all others, equally entitled to *Exemption*, are alſo *incapable*—Magiſtrates—Phyſicians—Lawyers—Members of the Lower Houſe of Aſſembly, &c.——But the Exemption of Counſellors will hardly be claimed by them, or allowed by others, on the Principle that Peers are exempted in *England*, which would entitle them to Privileges, both unneceſſary and inconvenient. The *Dignity* of a Counſellor, upon the Byſtander's Argument of *Parity*, exempts him from Arreſt, from ſwearing to his Anſwer in Chancery, entitles him to be tried by *Counſellors only*, in Caſes of Life, to his Action of *Scandalum Magnatum*, &c. In a Word, tho' a *Counſellor*, according to the *Byſtander*'s Reaſoning, wou'd be deprived of ſitting in *Veſtry*, he wou'd have ample Amends from the Acceſſion of a Variety of Privileges. Suppoſing, however, that a Counſellor ſtill will be, as he always has been, equally liable in his Perſon and Eſtate, with any other Perſon; how will there be a Want of Power to compel his Attendance on his Duty?——But, "an Appeal lies to the *Governor* and *Coun*"*cil*; and, by the Canon Law, an Appeal cannot be "made from the *ſame* Perſon to the *ſame* Perſon."—"Is not this (ſays he) "a Caſe in Point?——I think not; for, to make it ſo, we muſt ſuppoſe the Veſtry to act judicially—the whole Power thereof to be in *one* Counſellor,—and this *one* Counſellor to be the Governor and Council.——But this is not the Caſe, for the COUNSELLOR is only *one* of *many* Veſtrymen, and *one* of *many* Judges on the Appeal. A Chancellor, or any of the Judges, being Peers, do ſit in the Houſe of Lords, on Appeals from their own Deciſions. The Chancellor of *Maryland* ſits on Appeals from his own Decrees; and it has been uſual for Provincial Magiſtrates, being Counſellors, to exerciſe a like Juriſdiction. Why does not the Byſtander apply ſome Part of his Zeal to correct theſe Abuſes? Why does he not extend his Care to the Reformation of the *State*, as well as of the *Church*? And, eſpecially, when he has declared, that ſuch a "Practice wou'd ſtop the *Courſe of* "*Juſtice*, introduce and eſtabliſh *Tyranny* and *Oppreſ*"*ſion*, and is, in a Word, as repugnant to *Reaſon* as "to *Law*."

But why need the Byſtander be ſo anxious to have the *Counſellor* diſplaced, as a *Veſtryman*, when his *Eccleſiaſtical Law* has pointed out an effectual Remedy againſt Oppreſſion, by forbidding him to ſit on the *Appeal*. In the Caſe he puts, the *Biſhop* was not deprived of his *inferior* Juriſdiction, but the *Appeal* was not to be made to him. Now, I think, the moſt that can be inferred from this Caſe, *upon the Principle of Parity*, is, that the *Counſellor* ſhall not be ſtript of his *Veſtry* Power, but he ſhall not ſit upon the *Appeal*; and thus I think all the dreadful Conſequences, ſo much apprehended by this *jealous Patriot*, will be obviated.

A *Counſellor* is certainly diſqualified from voting at Elections, not *on Account of his Dignity*, but becauſe ſuch Perſons *only* vote, as are repreſented by the elected, and *Counſellors*, being perſonally preſent, and Parties in paſſing of all Laws, *are not repreſented*. The Acceptance of a Place vacates a Seat in the Houſe of Aſſembly; becauſe, by the Statute, it does in the Houſe of Commons, the Precedents of whoſe Proceedings we have adopted; but to extend this Statute to Veſtrymen, is, upon a Rule of Equity, never before heard of here or elſewhere. That an Option ſhould revert to the People, whether they will continue their Confidence in a Perſon they had once intruſted with the important Character of a Legiſlator, after the Acceptance of an Office, which may bias him againſt their Intereſt, is very proper.——But what are the Politics carried on in Veſtries that can make a Placeman particularly exceptionable? It appears to me, that a *Miniſter*, intriguing for Pluralities, againſt Law, is a more dangerous Perſon to be intruſted with ſuch a Power.

I acknowledge that every Veſtryman takes a ſtrict Oath "That he will juſtly and truly execute the Truſt "or Office of a Veſtryman of the Pariſh according to "the beſt of his Skill and Knowledge, without Preju"dice, Favour, or Affection," and I agree with the Byſtander, "that if the *Principal* had overlooked his "Duty, thro' Favour or Prejudice, he wou'd deſervedly "have incurred Cenſure"——But, altho' one wou'd wiſh *to avoid the Cenſure* of the World, yet I muſt ſuppoſe, that he had an higher Motive of Conduct.—Awed by the ſacred Nature of his Oath, and knowing how much the Cauſe of Religion, and eternal Welfare of his Flock depend upon his Example, no Conſideration cou'd induce him to act againſt his Sentiments of Duty. Unbiaſſed by *Favour* or *Prejudice*, no Expectation of *Aſſiſtance* in, no Dread of *Oppoſition*, to any little Emoluments, merely temporal, to which he might have Pretenſions, cou'd influence a Gentleman of *his Piety*. His Attempt to diſplace the *unfit* Counſellor, and his pious Precautions to provide a *fit* Succeſſor in his Room, both proceeded, no Doubt, from a Senſe of Duty, and an inviolable Regard to the moſt ſacred of all Sanctions—Acting upon a Motive, ſo truly religious and honourable, he, by a ſingle Step, gives a Leſſon to his Pariſhioners more efficacious than a thouſand Sermons, and they muſt always remember, that, when they are Veſtrymen, no *Favour*, no *Prejudice*, no *ſelfiſh Conſiderations* are to influence or bias their Conduct.——

But whatever Opinion I may entertain of the Purity of the *Principal*'s Conduct upon this Occaſion, yet others are apt to allledge,—that the Act of Aſſembly does not "make it one *great Branch* of his Duty, to *reſtrain*, or "*ſet aſide* an *irregular Repreſentation*" as the Byſtander aſſerts, but places this Power in the *Reſidue* of the *Veſtry*, of which he is only *one*——that it directs a Notice to be given to the Party, and a particular Mode of Proceeding, before he is ouſted of his Seat in the Veſtry, and a conſiderable Time to the Pariſhioners to ſupply the Vacancy——that when an Oath is directed by an Act, it implies an Obligation to perform all the Duties thereby impoſed on the Party taking the Oath——that the Terms of the Act are preciſe and plain, and cou'd not be miſunderſtood by a Man of the *Principal*'s Underſtanding——that therefore he was guilty of a direct Breach of his Duty, in endeavouring *illegally* to diſpoſſeſs one Perſon of his Seat, and to ſupply it, by *Surprize*, with *another*—In Confirmation of their Opinion, that the *Principal* had formed a premeditated Deſign of ſacrificing his Duty to his Intereſt, they mention ſundry Facts to the following Purpoſe——That the *Principal* had a fond Deſire of holding the two Pariſhes of *St. James* and *St. Anne*——that it was *once* his Opinion, he cou'd not hold *them*, without the Conſent of the Veſtries of *both*——That he applied firſt to the Veſtry of *St. James*, and got ſomething like a Conſent from them——That then he applied privately to the Members of the Veſtry of *St. Anne*——and, among the reſt, to a Counſellor, who happened to be one of them——That the Counſellor frankly told him, that he thought his Pretenſions illegal, the Law requiring that the *Two Pariſhes* ſhou'd be *adjacent*, which he thought cou'd not be, when there was an *interjacent* Pariſh between them—That, finding, after ſome Converſations, no Change in the Counſellor's Opinion, and that he was inflexibly determined to be governed by his own Senſe of the Law, when he was acting upon Oath, the *Principal* grew angry, reviled him behind his Back, conceived that he was *unfit* to be of the Veſtry, and formed a Scheme to turn him out——That, previouſly to the Execution of his Plot, he ſpoke to a Gentleman, to be of the Veſtry, and upon his Acquieſcence, added—*but you muſt engage to give me your Vote to hold the two Pariſhes, or you muſt not come in*——That the Gentleman wou'd have treated the *Principal* with *proper Reſpect* for the Indignity, had it not been for *a particular Circumſtance*——That he then applied to another Gentleman in the ſame Manner, who likewiſe rejected his Propoſition with Scorn—And, laſtly, that he found a *fit* Perſon, who entered into all the proper *preliminary Engagements*——Theſe People further add——That, the Plot being ripe for Execution, the *Principal*, upon a *Sunday*, ſtuck up an Advertiſement, notifying to the Pariſhioners, that there was to be an Election of a *Veſtryman* upon the *Tueſday* following——That he alſo ſummoned a Veſtry to meet upon the *latter* Day, but gave *no Notice* to the *Counſellor*——That he lodged his *Friend*, *abovementioned*, in a neighbouring Houſe, who, upon a Signal, was to come out (as ſoon as the Counſellor's Seat in the Veſtry was determined to be vacant) and ſupply his Place——That the Veſtry met——That the *Principal* propoſed the Buſineſs of the Day, which was the Election of a Veſtryman in the Room of one who was *become unfit* by being a *Counſellor*——That the Veſtry were ſtartled at the Novelty of the Objection, and deſired that the *Counſellor* might be ſent for, to which the *Principal* wou'd not conſent——That the Veſtry poſitively refuſed to enter upon a new Election, till the *Counſellor* (who was all this while engaged as a Member of the Mayor's Court, upon the City Election) was ſent for, and heard in Support of his Right—That the *Principal*, thus diſappointed, went off in a great Wrath, and his *Friend*, in *Ambuſh*, followed after—And, ſay they, thus ended this *pious* Plot——Theſe Gentlemen go on and make Reflections upon the above Facts——That *Art* in *ſome* Caſes is an arrant *Fool*——That Honeſty is the beſt Policy, and——That Craft ſeldom fails to out-wit itſelf, and meet in the End with its juſt Rewards, Hatred—Contempt and Diſappointment.——

If indeed the above Facts are as true as they are confidently and generally aſſerted, I ſhould give up the *Principal*'s Conſcience, and believe, with the reſt of the World, that the *Plea of Duty* is a mere Pretence, that he endeavoured to accompliſh his Purpoſe, by Means unjuſtifiable, that his Words and Actions have not been "diſplayed in *worſe* Colours" than they deſerve, and that if he has met with any particular Marks of Odium here, it was not owing to his being a *Stranger*, but to quite a different Principle.

When Contempt is deſerved, it ought, for the Intereſt of real Merit and Virtue, to be expreſſed without Reſerve, without Diſtinction of Perſons; but I ſhou'd, indeed be ſorry, that any Stranger, *merely becauſe a Stranger*, ſhould be treated in ſo unworthy a Manner, as to have "his every Word and Action diſplayed in the worſt Colours"——Having, however, obſerved the exceſſive Diſingenuity of the *Byſtander*, in other Matters, I ſhould ſuſpect his Veracity in the preſent Inſtance, even if I did not know the Fact he alledges to be abſolutely falſe.——I ſincerely wiſh, and make not the leaſt Doubt, but that the Character of Hoſpitality and civil Regard to *Strangers*, by which we have been hitherto diſtinguiſhed, will be ever preſerved; and that we ſhall always cheriſh a *peculiar* Reſpect, for every conſcientious Miniſter, *labouring in the great Work of the Goſpel*, from the *Example* of whoſe *Life* and *Converſation*, and the *Piety* of whoſe *Precepts*, ſo many and ſuch invaluable Benefits flow to the Community.

*** *In our laſt* GAZETTE, *in the Papers firſt ſtruck off, the following Errors, in the Piece, ſign'd* C. D. *eſcap'd the Preſs*——Page 2, Col. 3, Line 26, *for* that, *r.* thus——*Same* Col. 5th Line *from the Bottom, for* Tueſpaſſers, *r.* Treſpaſſers——Page 3, Col. 1, Line 55, *for* ſtooping, *r.* ſtopping——Col. 2, Line 5, *for* ad Inferiorem, *r.* ad Superiorem.

March 2, 1768.

JUST IMPORTED, *in the* LORD CAMBDEN, *Captain* JOHN. JOHNSTOUN, *and to be ſold by the Subſcriber, at his Store, in* Church-Street, ANNAPOLIS,

AN ASSORTMENT of EUROPEAN and INDIA GOODS.

THO^S. HARWOOD.

FOR SALE,

At the Subscriber's STORE, *near the Church*, Annapolis,

TURLINGTON's Balsam, in large and small Bottles; *Bateman's* Drops; Elixir Bardana; Balsam of Honey, by Doctor *Hill*, a Medicine in universal Esteem, for its specific Virtue in removing all Disorders of the Lungs; *Stoughton's* and *Daffy's* Elixir; *Godfrey's* Cordial; *Anderson's* and *Locker's* Pills; Worm destroying Sugar Plumbs; *King's* Honey Water; Court Plaister; Pomatum; Isinglass; Sago; and a small Quantity of Jesuits Bark, of a very superior Quality.

Likewise an ASSORTMENT of DRY GOODS, suitable for the Season.

N. B. Also a Quantity of good BUTTER, by the Firkin.

*** Ready Cash for old Brass or Copper.

(3w) THOMAS B. HODGKIN.

To be Sold at PUBLIC VENDUE, *on the 8th Instant, at the Dwelling-House of* Thomas Elliott, *for Sterling Money, or good* London *Bills of Exchange,*

ONE Hundred Thirty-seven and a Half Acres of Land, being Part of a Tract, called WATERFORD, situate on the River *Patuxent*, in *Anne-Arundel* County, about Two Miles above *Queen-Anne* Town, being the Plantation whereon *Joseph Williams*, Son of *Richard*, now lives. Part of which is Meadow Ground, the other Part, well wooded and watered, and produces good Tobacco and Corn. For Particulars, apply to the Subscribers. The Purchase Money to be paid to *Henry Hall*.

JOS. WILLIAMS, Son of *Richard*.
JOHN HAMS, jun.

N. B. At same Time will be Sold, for Sterling Money, or Dollars, at Four Shillings and Sixpence each, One Hundred and Fifty Acres of Land, being Part of the above Tract. Likewise some Household Goods, *&c.* The Premises may be seen, and the Title made known, by applying to THOMAS ELLIOT.

A LIST of LETTERS remaining in the Post-Office, *Annapolis, February* 23, 1768.

A. PERTER ADAMS, Annapolis.

B. Thurston Brown, ditto. Robert Buchanan, Kent Co*y*. Ignatius Baker, Frederick Co*y*. David Brown, Maryland. George Burrough, Kent Co*y*. Rob*t*. Buchan, Piscataway. Tho*s*. Brereton, Oxford. Cha*s*. Brown, Rob*t*. Loyd, Wye-River. John Blackwood, Frederick Co*y*.

C. Collector and Comptroller, 6; Pocomocke. Cha*s*. Carrol, B. Law, Annapolis. W*m*. Corer, Maryland. Joseph Clisbeijat, ditto. John Campbell, Dorset Co*y*. Joseph Cowman, West-River. W*m*. Corner, Oxford.

D. Caleb Dorsey, 3; Elk-Ridge. Edward Dulany, Richard Dicks, Annapolis. Littleton Dennis, Worcester C*y*. Charles Dashiell, Maryland.

E. Rob*t* Edmonds, Tho*s* Everton, Maryland. Mr. Egerton, Port-Tobacco. Arnold Elzey, Princess-Anne. Hugh Eccleston, Dorchester.

F. Abraham Forster, Annapolis.

G. Anne Green, 2, Reverdy Ghiselin, 3, Cornelius Garretson, William Goldsmith, Annapolis. Joshua Griffith, Elk-Ridge. William Geddes, Somerset C*y*. Martha Glasgow, Worcester C*y*.

H. Clement Hollyday, John Hesselius, Annapolis. Mary Hammond, Severn. John Hanson, Charles C*y*. Hugh Hemsworth, West-River. Walter Hoxton, John Hutchins, Patuxent. Dr. James Houston, James Howard, Robert Harrold, Maryland. Robert Harrison, Cambridge. Rev*d*. Mr. Howard, Kent-Island. John Harrison, Elk-Ridge. Levi Hopkins, Snow-Hill. Rev*d*. Philip Hughes, Worcester C*y*. Outerbridge Horsey, Somerset C*y*.

J. Thomas Johnson, 2, Thomas Jenings, 2, Robert Johnson, Annapolis.

K. William Knapp, 2, Annapolis, Samuel Kirkpatrick, Vienna.

L. John Ladler, John Lem, John Livack, Annapolis. Joseph Lane, Elk-Ridge. Capt. Laidler, Patowmack. Joseph Lee, West-River. Samuel Lane, 2, Pig Point. James M*c*Lauchlan, George-Town. Richard Lamar, Prince-George's C*y*. Ether Lowes, Somerset C*y*. Alexander Laing, Dorchester C*y*.

M. Nicholas Maccubbin, William Munroe, James Maccubbin, Beriah Maybury, Annapolis. Margaret Main, Charles C*y*. William Mackeuen, Charles-Town. Joseph Mayou, South-River.

N. Emanuel Nicholls, Annapolis. James Nicholls, John Nesmith, Maryland.

P. James Purman, Anne Purlivent, Gregory Philpott, William Paca, Annapolis. Philip Palmer, Michael Cheff, Sarah Porter, Maryland. Yelverton Payton Probart, 2, Snow Hill.

R. William Reynolds, William Ridgely, Annapolis. William Rockes, Francis Rock, Cæcil C*y*. Abraham Rhodes, St. Mary's C*y*. Henry Ridgeley, James Rain, Elk-Ridge. Rev*d*. Robert Reade, Somerset Co*y*. Joseph Richardson, Maryland.

S. Benson Stainton, 2, Francis Stainton 2, Wye-River. Daniel Sulivan, James Seth, Choptank. Jonathan Slater, Patowmack. Henry Steele, Cambridge. Thomas Sair, 2, Nottingham Works. Joseph Sim, Patuxent. Capt, Evan Stokes, Maryland. Richard Sedgwick, Cæcil C*y*. Thomas Sawyet, Kent C*y*.

T. Dr. Rich*d*. Tootell, Annapolis. John Tolbay, Dover.

W. Richard Wood, Thomas Wilson, Annapolis. Richard Whootton, Theodore Wederstrandt, Queen-Anne Co*y*. Spencer Waters, Dorchester Co*y*. Josuah Warfield, Severn.

Bladensburg, *Feb.* 27, 1768.

Will be exposed to SALE *on Saturday the 9th of* April,

THE HOUSE and LOT in *Bladensburg*, where Mr. *Row* lived, and One Hundred and Thirty ACRES of LAND, lying near the same. For Title and Terms apply to

(w5) DAVID ROSS.

COMMITTED to *Prince George's* County Jail, as a Runaway, a white Man, who says his Name is *William Langley*, and belongs to *William Bryan* of *Charles* County. His Master is desired to take him away and pay Charges.

Wm. T. WOOTTON, Sheriff.

FEBRUARY 18, 1768.

To be SOLD, *by* PUBLIC VENDUE, *on the 17th Day of* March *next, at the Coffee-House in* ANNAPOLIS, *for ready Money only, and to be entered on immediately,*

A TRACT of LAND, lying on the North-Side of SEVERN, where Mr. BENJAMIN WRIGHT formerly lived, containing Three Hundred ACRES, more or less, 6 or 8 Acres of which is good Upland Meadow. There is on it Two good Apple Orchards. The Title is indisputable.

(ts) HENRY WRIGHT.

*** The Land lies about Five Miles from *Annapolis*.

To be SOLD *by* William Lee, *on Wednesday the 9th Day of* March *Inst. at* George-Town, *on* Rock-Creek,

FIFTY VALUABLE SLAVES, for ready Specie, *Maryland* Currency, or good *London* Bills of Exchange.

THERE is to be a Meeting of the MISSISSIPPI COMPANY, at *Stafford* Court-House, in *Virginia*, the 21st Day of *March* 1768.

To be Sold by the Subscriber, agreeable to the Last Will and Testament of Enoch Bayley, *late of* Baltimore *County, deceased,*

ONE Hundred Acres of LAND, about 5 Miles from *Baltimore-Town*. Near Forty Acres of which are cleared.

(w6) JOHN MURRAY.

JOHN SCHUTE,

WOOL-COMBER, *and* STOCKING-GRAFTER, *from* England, *now at the House of Mr.* William Reynolds, *in* Annapolis,

HEREBY gives Notice to the Public, That he carries on the above Business in all its Branches. Such Persons as chuse to favour him, in the above Way, may depend on having their Commands faithfully and expeditiously executed, on the most moderate Terms, by applying as above. (4w)

February 12, 1768.

To be sold at PUBLIC SALE, *by the Subscriber, at the Dwelling-House of* Solomon Turner, *in* Frederick *County, on the 21st Day of* March *next, the following Tracts of Land*, viz.

ONE Tract, called SOLOMON's FLOWER, containing Fifty Acres. Also Part of another Tract, called The RESURVEY, on *Solomon's Flower*, containing Four Hundred Acres, adjoining the aforesaid Fifty Acres; both on *Bennet's* Creek. As also Part of the RESURVEY, called *Daniel's Small Tract*, containing Eight Hundred and Fifty-five Acres, lying on the public Road that leads from *Frederick-Town* to *George-Town*. There will be sold the same Day, and at the same Place, some Houshold Furniture, and Plantation Utensils. Time will be given for one Half of the Purchase-Money, upon giving Bond and Security, if required.

*** The Sale to begin at 10 o'Clock in the Forenoon.

(w3) THOMAS BEATTY, jun.

Frederick County, *Feb.* 11, 1768.

WHEREAS WHERTILA, the Wife of me, the Subscriber, having departed my Bed and Board, by a mutual Contract, and I being apprehensive she may run me in Debt, I therefore desire all Persons whatsoever not to trust her on my Account, for I will pay no Debts of her contracting after this Date.

(w3) RUDOLPH ETTEKER.

THE Sloop BETSEY, a strong Vessel, and prime Sailer, will carry about 3500 Bushels, now lying at *St. Leonard's* Creek, *Patuxent*, to be sold, or let on Charter. She is well found, and will be fit to receive her Lading at Ten Days Notice, if Chartered. For Terms, apply to Mr. *Joshua Johnson*, at *Annapolis*, or the Subscriber, at *St. Leonard's* Creek. GEORGE COOK.

WANTS EMPLOYMENT,

A YOUNG MAN, bred to Store-Keeping Business, and writes a tolerable Hand. Any Gentleman, or Merchant, in Want of such a Person, will be waited on, by directing to E. B. to the PRINTING-OFFICE, at *Annapolis*. (2w)

Anne-Arundel County, *February* 17, 1768.

THE Subscriber gives Notice to all Persons that brought Cloth to his Fulling-Mill, at the Head of *South-River*, to be dress before the 6th of this Instant, that it is now finished, and the Owners are desired to take it away as soon as they conveniently can. He further informs the Public, that he carries on the Business at said Mill; and those who are pleased to favour him with their Custom, may depend on their Orders being duly observed, and their Work well done, with Dispatch, and not to be disappointed, as heretofore.——All Persons that have open Accounts with him, are desired to settle and discharge the same, in so doing, they will greatly oblige their very humble Servant,

(tf) JOHN DUCKER.

February 11, 1768.

COMMITTED to *St. Mary's* County Jail, as a Runaway, Negro *Anthony*, who says he belongs to *William Morgan*, of *Frederick* County. His Master is desired to take him away, and pay Charges to

ROBERT WATTS, Sheriff.

RAN away from the Subscriber, living on the great Road, near *Abbot's* Town, *York* County, *Pennsylvania*, a Servant Man, named JOHN LAMB, about 5 Feet 7 Inches high, and about 25 Years of Age, of a ruddy Complexion, long visaged, brown Hair, pretty long, speaks thick, and has a stern Look, is apt to swear, and much given to drinking, and is by Trade a Taylor: Had on, when he went away, a pretty good Suit of blue Cloaths, with *Bath* Metal Buttons, and his Cloaths is much greased.

Whoever takes up said Servant, and secures him, in any Jail, so as the Subscriber may have him again, shall receive Five Pounds Reward, and reasonable Charges, paid by Mr. *George Stricker*, in *Frederick-Town, Maryland*, Mr. *Bryan Bruen*, Merchant, in *Winchester*, or the Subscriber, living at *Brook's* Gap, *Augusta* County, *Virginia*.

(w4) JOHN GRATTAN.

ANNAPOLIS, *February* 2, 1768.

To be Sold to the highest Bidder, on the the 21st Day of March, *at* Tollie's *Point, near* Annapolis, *for* London *Bills of Exchange, or Sterling Cash*,

A PARCEL of Country born SLAVES, Men, Women, Boys, and Girls. Time for Payment will be given, to the Last Day of *August*, on giving Bond, with Security, if desired.

(ts) EDWARD SPRIGG.

COMMITTED to *Kent* County Jail, on Suspicion of being Runaways, a certain *William Hudson*, and *James Smith*, who say they are Servants to *William Groves* of *Baltimore* County.

Their Master is desired to take them out of Jail, or they will be sold for their Fees.

(w6) J. NICHOLSON, Sheriff of *Kent* County.

January 21, 1768.

WHEREAS a certain Dr. *John Alexander Brown*, of *Frederick* County, *Maryland*, has obtained a Bond of the Subscriber, conditioned for conveying a House and Lot, in *Westminster-Town, Frederick* County, to him, or his Assigns, as by said Bond may more fully appear.—This is therefore to desire all Persons whatever, to take no Assignment of said Bond, for I will not convey said House and Lot, to any Person, unless I am paid and satisfied for all said Dr. *Brown's* Obligations, now in my Hands, for which I hold the said House and Lot, as my Security.

(w3) WILLIAM WINCHESTER.

Baltimore-Town, February 10, 1768.

THE Subscriber having taken out Letters of Administration on the Estate of her late Husband, Mr. *Brian Philpot*, of *Baltimore-Town*, deceased, requests all the Creditors of the said deceased, to give her speedy Notice of the Amount of their several Claims, therein distinguishing whether they are on Bonds, Bills, Notes, or Accounts, that she may thereby be enabled to ascertain the Amount of the whole Debts, and give the Preference in the first Payments to those, who by Law, are entitled to the same. All Persons indebted to the said Estate, are desired to make speedy Payment.

She requests the Indulgence of the several Creditors, that they would not commence Suits against her, and thereby burthen the Administration with Costs, as they may be assured of her Intention to discharge the Debts, and compleat the Administration with all the Dispatch in her Power.

(3m) MARY PHILPOT, Administratrix.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by ANNE CATHARINE and WILLIAM GREEN, at the PRINTING-OFFICE: Where all Persons may be supplied with this GAZETTE, at 12*s.* 6*d.* a Year; ADVERTISEMENTS, of a moderate Length, are inserted the First Time, for 5*s.* and 1*s.* for each Week's Continuance. Long Ones in Proportion to their Number of Lines.——At same Place may be had, ready Printed, most kinds of BLANKS, *viz.* COMMON and BAIL BONDS; TESTAMENTARY LETTERS of several Sorts, with their proper BONDS annexed; BILLS of EXCHANGE; SHIPPING-BILLS, *&c. &c.* All Manner of PRINTING-WORK performed in the neatest and most expeditious Manner, on applying as above.